

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of claims in this application.

Claims 1-22 (canceled).

23. (currently amended) Sealing cap for screw closure of a receptacle for alcoholic beverages in the form of a bottle with a neck, equipped with sealing means and pilfer-proof means, comprising two assembled parts attached, in rotational and axial terms:

a) an inner part or insert, made of plastic, comprising an inner head and an inner skirt, with said inner head comprising sealing means and said inner skirt comprising inner threading on its inner surface intended to co-operate with threading of the neck, and

b) an outer part or cap made of metal or comprising a metal portion, enclosing and hiding at least said inner skirt, with the outer surface of said inner part and the inner surface of said outer part co-operating in view of the assembly of said inner and outer parts,

wherein the inner part comprises pilfer-proof means, with said inner skirt connected by bridges to a guarantee seal held by a ring of the neck and separated from said skirt after a first opening of said cap, said outer part carries all decorations of said cap, and comprises an outer skirt having a length sufficient to hide, at least before the first opening of said cap, said inner skirt and said guarantee seal, so as to be able to modify the appearance of said cap at will without having to modify any technical functions, with said guarantee seal becoming visible after the first opening,

wherein said guarantee seal comprises an inner ring equipped with fastening components turned towards the inside of said cap, and snapped under said ring such that, during the

first opening, the bridges break, with said guarantee seal prevented from moving upwards by the co-operation of said components with said ring, and such that said guarantee seal, separated from the rest of said cap, becomes the visible proof of said first opening, and

wherein said outer skirt comprises bridges attaching it to an outer ring, with said outer ring being locked upwards by said inner ring, such that during the first opening, the outer and inner rings are separated from the rest of said cap.

24. (previously presented) Cap according to claim 23, wherein said outer part comprises an outer head.

25. (previously presented) Cap according to claim 23, wherein said outer part comprises a straight skirt.

26. (currently amended) Cap according to claim 23, wherein said outer part forms a rotation surface which is optionally of a constant radius.

27. (previously presented) Cap according to claim 23, wherein said outer part and said inner part comprise mechanical or chemical attachment means, for said assembly to said inner part.

28. (previously presented) Cap according to claim 27, wherein the attachment means comprises gluing.

29. (previously presented) Cap according to claim 23, wherein said inner part is a polypropylene insert, equipped with inner threading on which the guarantee seal comprises clips.

30. (previously presented) Cap according to claim 23, wherein said outer part is made of surface treated aluminum which creates a metallic color or appearance.

31. (previously presented) Cap according to claim 30, wherein the surface treatment is brushing or anodizing.

Claims 32-33: (canceled).

34. (currently amended) Cap according to claim 33 23, wherein said outer ring is locked upwards by said inner ring by means of a lower rim of said outer ring.

35. (previously presented) Cap according to claim 23, wherein said sealing means comprises an added seal or a circular lip attached to said inner head.

36. (previously presented) Cap according to claim 35, further comprising an added seal of sufficient diameter to cover the edge of the neck and axial and/or radial compression means on the inner surface of said insert, to apply said seal in a tight manner onto said edge of said neck during closure.

37. (previously presented) Cap according to claim 36, wherein said axial compression means comprises a circular rib formed on the inner wall of said inner head for compressing said seal onto the upper part of said edge.

38. (previously presented) Cap according to claim 36, wherein said radial compression means comprises an annular extra thickness formed on said inner skirt or on said inner head for compressing said seal onto all or part of the curved part and/or onto the radial part of the edge.

39. (previously presented) Cap according to claim 38, wherein said annular extra thickness takes the form of an annular step positioned at the inner annular angle formed at the bridge of the inner head and the inner skirt.

40. (previously presented) Cap according to claim 36, wherein said inner head comprises an annular rim with a punched central part.

41. (previously presented) Cap according to claim 36, wherein:

said inner head has a thickness of from 0 to 0.5 mm,  
said compression means comprises a curved part.

42. (previously presented) Cap according to claim 36,

wherein the thickness of said compression means is selected as a function of the thickness  $E_j$  of the seal and the space  $E_o$  between said neck and said cap, such that said receptacle is closed in a tight manner by said cap.

43. (previously presented) Cap according to claim 36, wherein said axial and/or radial compression means is an integral part of said insert or forms an added part.

44. (previously presented) Cap according to claim 35, comprising holding means for said added seal.

LAW OFFICES  
DENNISON, SCHULTZ, DOUGHERTY & MACDONALD  
SUITE 103  
1727 KING STREET  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314-2700  
703 837-8600